VZCZCXRO6511 PP RUEHRG DE RUEHBR #2309/01 3540945 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 200945Z DEC 07 FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0691 INFO RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO 5593 RUEHRG/AMCONSUL RECIFE 7512 RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 1356 RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 6455 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 5173 RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 3897 RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 2105 RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 7131 RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ 5817 RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 0043 RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC RHMFIUU/FAA NATIONAL HQ WASHINGTON DC RUEAYVF/FAA MIAMI ARTCC MIAMI FL RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC RUWDQAB/NTSB WASHINGTON DC RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHDC

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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/EPSC AND EEB/TRA
STATE PASS USTR FOR KATE DUCKWORTH
FAA FOR CCAPESTANY, GBURDICK, KBERQUIST
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR BHEDBERG, MSTREET
BUENOS AIRES FOR TSA ATTACHE
MEXICO CITY FOR TSA ATTACHE MGALVAN
USDOC FOR 4332/ITA/MAC/WH/OLAC
USDOC ALSO FOR 3134/USFCS/OIO
NSC FOR TOMASULO
TREASURY FOR JHOEK
SOUTHCOM FOR POLAD
NTSB FOR RMACINTOSH, BENGLISH
STATE FOR USAID FOR LAC/AA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAIR ECON EIND PGOV PREL EINV BEXP BR

SUBJECT: BRAZIL CIVAIR: POSSIBLE INCREASED FREQUENCIES, ROUTES FOR

U.S. CARRIERS AND FUTURE DISCUSSION TOPICS

REF: BRASILIA 2124

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED--PLEASE PROTECT ACCORDINGLY

11. (SBU) Ambassador Sobel spoke again on December 19 with recently confirmed new National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC) Director-President Solange Vieira, who will now be responsible for air services negotiations with the United States. The Ambassador also met separately on the same day with Minister of Defense Nelson Jobim to discuss possible new frequencies and routes to several cities, as well as other aviation issues. Brazil and U.S. negotiators signed a Memorandum of Consultations at the conclusion of December 5-6 civil aviation talks in Rio that expressed intent to meet again before the end of 2008 (septel). The Rio session, the first in more than 10 years, was an important first step in establishing negotiations with Brazil on civil aviation issues. The Ambassador's discussions were intended to maintain that momentum toward achieving the ability to implement new routes as soon as possible as well as other important US objectives in the negotiations.

 $\underline{\ }$ 2. (SBU) Following are the talking points that the Ambassador left behind as a nonpaper:

[Begin Text.]

Continued Bilateral Aviation Discussion with Brazil

We are pleased to hear the Brazilians are interested in continuing our conversations.

Our carriers would like maximum flexibility to institute service to and from areas in Brazil where demand appears likely to indicate profitability, and therefore, there is no guarantee that the availability of additional frequencies would translate into direct flights.

Additionally, operating constraints, high fuel costs and other factors can prevent carriers from implementing plans for new service.

With different levels of specificity and limited commitment to implement services, U.S. carriers have expressed interest in additional frequencies and designations that would allow for new services to cities such as Belem, Belo Horizonte, Brasilia, Fortaleza, Manaus, Porto Alegre, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, and Salvador before 2010.

On the road to broader liberalization, we are interested in concluding a commercially significant interim agreement that would include certain core elements:

In the short term, we are prepared to focus on a set number of additional frequencies to be used to Brazilian cities, without an increase in rights to operate to Sao Paulo.

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While completely open routing is not offered except in the context of Open Skies, we will consider a reasonable liberalization of routing of benefit to Brazilian carriers.

We would like an agreement to liberalize the all-cargo relationship, which supports our growing bilateral trade relationship.

Finally, we must have some commercially useable third country code share rights; we are willing to talk about phase-in and limitations.

[End Text.]

13. (SBU) The reactions of Vieira and Jobim were positive to the idea of increased frequencies and routes. Next steps will be to engage bilaterally on the other topics listed.

SOBEL